

**MEETING NOTES**  
**ARIZONA/SONORA REGIONAL WORKGROUP MEETING**

**February 11, 2004**

**8:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Rio Rico Resort- 1069 Camino Caralampi**

**Rio Rico, AZ 85648**

8:30 - 9:00                      Registration

**9:00 - 9:15                      Welcome and Opening Remarks**  
(Co-Chairs)

Welcoming and opening remarks were made by: Mr. Ed Ranger—Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ); Ms. Laura Yoshii—U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region IX; and Lic. Eduardo Charles Pesqueira—Secretariat of Urban Infrastructure and Ecology of Sonora (SIUE).

9:15    10:30                      **Reports/Updates:**

- **National Coordinators Meeting (L. Yoshii – US EPA Co-Chair)**

Ms. Yoshii gave a report on the National Coordinator's Meeting (NCM) held in Matamoros, Tamaulipas on December 2-4, 2003. The NCM ensures policy support for regional initiatives. The group relies on input from regional work groups. Ms. Yoshii provided the web site address, where the group's communiqué may be found:  
<http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder>.

**Water:** The participants agreed that one of highest priorities is infrastructure. To date 51 projects have been certified and funded by the BECC and NADBANK, benefiting 6.4 million people. There is a commitment to continue to identify the highest priorities in this area. The regional work groups have an important role in identifying those priorities.

**Air:** Completion of a borderwide baseline study is important for use in establishing projects and activities to achieve the goals of Border 2012. Good progress has been made in obtaining air monitoring data, which allows for identification of projects and activities to improve air quality. Some national priorities to explore: Use of low sulfur fuels, diesel retrofits.

**Land management:** There is a need to develop waste management infrastructure. This will be a focus at both the national and regional levels. Tire piles were identified as a priority. The approach includes improved management as well as reuse and recycling options. Another priority is tracking of hazardous waste and the need for binational policies for cleanup.

**Environmental health:** The participants agreed to include health issues in all areas of the Border 2012 program.

**Chemical Emergency Response:** Priorities are to ensure good communication and ability to respond jointly. There is a commitment to continue developing sister city agreements. Tremendous progress has been made. There are already 12 such agreements. There is a need to incorporate homeland security issues more fully.

Mexico needs more equipment – this is being addressed. There is a program underway to make surplus equipment available to Mexico.

**Enforcement/Compliance:** The group agreed to conduct a compliance survey for baseline understanding of compliance, in order to identify projects aimed at improving compliance.

The national leaders of both federal agencies were very receptive to input from the regional work groups. We must continue to provide concrete comments.

- **Request for Proposals [Mr. Gary Wolinsky, EPA]**

Funding for border projects was reviewed. A request for proposals (RFP) was announced in September for \$400,000 from Region IX, plus \$600,000 from Region VI for New Mexico and Texas regions. The RFP closed 12/31. Those proposals are now under review. The review is being conducted by the co-chairs, which is the first time proposals have been opened for external review. Final selection is planned for April, 2004.

Almost 4.7 million in requests were received from the Arizona/Sonora/California/Baja California region. We received the largest number of proposals for water projects. Since there are far more proposals than can be funded, other funding sources are being sought.

Region six received 85 proposals; region nine received 90, so there is a tremendous need.

There are some funds available from other EPA programs (not just border-specific funds), for example, EPA's recent resource recovery specifically mentions tire projects.

Other federal and state agencies that work on the border are other potential funding sources, such as border health organizations.

The Border Health Commission has the Healthy Borders 2010 project, which has overlapping objectives, such as in the area of sanitation.

Private philanthropic foundations are another potential source, such as community foundations in the border region.

Participants were encouraged to pursue these funds.

- **Tribal Issues (Mr. Tibaldo Cañez, Arizona Tribal Coordinator)**

Tribal participation in Border 2012 is relatively recent. Formal Tribal participation was recognized in 1999, so participation is increasing.

In order to facilitate participation, the tribes received funds from the EPA for dissemination of information, organizational support and assistance in project development.

There are 26 tribes along border, four in Arizona.

One of the difficulties for tribal participation is the complexity of the relationships. Tribes are sovereign nations. Resources are a major problem. The tribes have had a lot of input. Tribal caucuses were held and the tribes had input into the development of Border 2012.

A final roundtable was held last summer. Tribal members from Mexico also participated in developing a list of issues. Most U.S. tribes have members in Mexico.

Basic environmental issues identified:

Inadequate water systems. The Tohono O'odham nation has 70 communities. Only one city, Sells. Of a total population of 20,000, 3,000 live in Sells, the rest live in rural villages. Half of the communities have adequate water and sewer infrastructure yet, half have severe problems.

Water must be trucked in to some villages. There are severe problems with waste water treatment. Many villages have outhouses.

In Mexico there is a lack of water and wastewater infrastructure.

Tribes like the idea of the EPA focusing on concrete projects with specific results. The tribe is proposing an infrastructure project for Quitovac, Sonora, Mexico.

Border infrastructure programs are a big concern for tribes. EPA has provided lots of infrastructure to tribes, such as new water systems.

Another major concern is illegal immigration and drug smuggling. Up to 1500 undocumented people are crossing tribal lands every day. This along with the Border Patrol causes a lot of damage to the land. The Border Patrol's off-road vehicles have large tires that tear up the land.

Many people help these travelers, but they are damaging the land. They leave 20 tons of trash per week in the desert and it has been accumulating for the last few years.

The Tohono O'odham nation is proposing a pilot study to determine how to clean it up and keep it clean (not just a one time clean up).

Also of concern:

Open burning in the Yuma area, especially in Mexico. As well as pesticide use in the agricultural areas around the city of Yuma. Unpaved roads, lack of air monitoring and high level of respiratory problems on the reservations.

Water supply and shared aquifers are an important concern for tribes. The Cocopah depend on agriculture as their main economic activity.

Participation is needed by all federal agencies that impact the border. Some basic agencies are missing, such as the Departments of Commerce, Transportation, and the Border Patrol. There is also a need for communication and information sharing with Mexico. Also for increased communication and coordination between state and local governments and non-government organizations.

All the tribes want to participate in all levels of decision-making. The challenge is how to incorporate them.

The tribes will have separate caucuses, prioritize issues, develop proposals and projects and bring these to the national coordinators meetings.

Question from Mike Alcala, U.S. Public Health Service: You raise a good point about federal agencies and lack of communication in terms of participation towards a solution. Do you have an opinion about how to get them to communicate about these issues toward a common goal?

Response Summary: Some of the work done here should be reported to the Departments of the Treasury and Commerce and local governments. Because a lot of decisions made by zoning, chambers of commerce end up causing problems for future generations. We need to share information across all levels of government and invite them to these meetings to see what's happening. We are always behind the problem. We need to try to get in front of it and push it back and work together to solve these problems. The more people involved the better the decision.

Summary of Comments by Ms. Yoshii, EPA: How to engage other federal agencies is important in all efforts of the task force. We hope to help as regional co-chairs. We have contacts with other agencies. We would like to help bring them to the table. Our colleagues are willing to come to the table when there is a defined agenda. An important existing forum for communication is the Good Neighbor Environmental Board (GNEB),

which includes business, environmental organizations and federal agencies. Another forum is the Federal Regional Council in Region IX.

Question from Mr. Bill Campbell, Tohono O'odham Nation: Could you say more about Quitovac, the boarding school, and the contaminants detected there?

Response Summary: The chair asked for a needs assessment. The wells were monitored. The community has 17 houses and a boarding school with 100 students from the area. The community depends on nine hand-dug wells. Bacterial contamination and high levels of radiological contaminants were detected. That's the reason for the proposal to improve the water system.

- **Bulletin Board – Communication Tool for Participating Parties and Public- (Ms. Kama Dean, Pro Peninsula)**

NGO Pro Peninsula has developed border2012.net. This site will facilitate outreach, communication, exchange of ideas between task forces and with the public. Users can post events, meeting dates, reports, studies, etc.

It's an interactive web site with a bulletin board, online calendar, forums for announcements and reports. Information can be exchanged publicly, by group or privately. It's an advanced communication tool. Anyone can access it, but there are different levels of access.

Question from Ms. Elaine Koerner, GNEB. What is the relationship between this tool and the EPA web site?

Response Summary: They are very similar. But this site allows interaction and discussion.

10:30 - 11:00

**Regional Environmental Activities** (Task Force Reports -15 Min. each)

- **Ambos Nogales Air Quality (Michelle Kimpel Guzman ADEQ)**

This is the second report to the RWG by the task force: Background: Particulate matter is a problem. After violating air quality standards in the 80s and 90s, then not violating for several years, we are now violating again. The task force was formalized at the June, 2003 meeting.

Twelve recommended actions were developed, focusing on five sources of emissions. The five focus sources are: 1) vehicle emissions, 2) unpaved roads, 3) soil erosion, 4) residual emissions from wood and garbage burning, and 5) traffic congestion.

Twelve recommended actions include: 1) reduce wood burning, 2) speed up individual and commercial border crossings, 3) construct major transportation corridors, 4) improve traffic flow on local streets, 5) reduce

air quality impacts of the train route, 6) promote more efficient revegetation efforts, 7) promote the use of engineering solutions to soil aeration, 8) establish or improve public transit services, 9) stabilize more unpaved roads and parking lots, 10) regulate vehicle emissions, 11) establish recycling programs, and 12) eliminate garbage burning. Quarterly meetings are being held to launch each of the 12 recommendations.

The following are updates of the next steps identified last June:

- Issue plan of action: Plan not yet issued
- Name lead individuals for each recommendation: There are a few blanks, but almost all are filled.
- Develop action plans: Five were presented in draft in December. Six more will be presented in March, 2004.
- Start measuring progress: How to measure progress is being actively addressed in the action plans.
- Form clean air partnerships: We are working with “special action group” which received a grant from US Health and Human Services (HHS) to promote health objectives. This will focus on diabetes and asthma in Nogales. We will participate with the air quality component.
- Public outreach: 2004 clean air calendar has been published. There will be an award ceremony this spring for the children whose drawings were selected for the calendar. We are gearing up for meetings with the Rotary and Lions Clubs and others in April. Also, we are developing educational materials for children on air quality, and possibly a children’s book.
- Additional outreach: We plan to start air quality index reporting. “Platicamos Salud” a community outreach group in Nogales, also wants to do that. We can work on that under the HHS grant. (ADEQ is interested in supporting air quality index reporting in Douglas and Yuma as well).
- Potential Funding Support: we have endorsed proposals for Border 2012 funding for specific projects.

Planned future activities:

- Finalize and issue plan of action
- Continue to develop and implement action plans for each activity
- Review and endorse projects
- Implement ozone and carbon monoxide monitoring
- Address diesel emissions

Kinds of assistance needed:

- More money is needed
- Need to identify US leads for speeding up crossings—ADOT and customs are logical leads, but they are not involved yet.

Question from Mr. Mike Alcala, U.S. Public Health Service: Regarding outreach and public participation, have you considered talking to local schools? There is a lot of interest among teachers and administrators.

Response Summary: We do work with schools. We worked with schools on the clean air calendar, and revegetation projects. Some schools have asked for presentations. Schools are feeling pressure because of testing. Sometimes it's difficult to get into schools. We are developing a puppet show we hope will help us get more presentations in classrooms.

Summary of Comment by Mr. John Swanson, Maquiladora Association of Nogales, Sonora: Regarding speeding up border crossing. We have been pushing for that with the industrial sector. We are offering engineers to help with logistics, etc.

Response Summary: A lot is being done at the ports of entry, like a dedicated commuter lane. Hopefully this will be operating by the end of the summer in Nogales. A site for enrollment has already been designated, and \$300,000 in state funds have been set aside for design, etc. Federal funds are also available to make this a reality.

- **Waste and Enforcement (Ms. Emily Pimentel and Mr. John Rothman, EPA)**

We have been meeting quarterly since 1996 and have focused on waste and enforcement, but the agendas always include a variety of issues. This group promoted the first successful environmental regulatory action against a foreign entity.

With the development of Border 2012, there have been some changes regarding meeting guidelines to encourage open discussions. The task force may not be as open due to the confidential nature of enforcement investigation discussions. However, discussions are not always confidential; therefore, the task force has structured the meeting agenda to allow separate times for the public and encourage participation from the private sector and non-profits representatives.

Projects that the task force intends to focus on include:

- Identify infrastructure needs and actions. The borderwide Waste Policy Forum will identify infrastructure priorities, however, we must identify priorities for the region. SEMARNAT has already stated that they would like to see several hazardous waste disposal facilities.
- Priorities that are emerging at the regional level:
  - Tire disposal facilities,
  - Used oil disposal facilities,
  - Hazardous wastes disposal facilities,
  - Solvent recycling,

- Landfill/solid waste disposal.

The Waste Policy Forum will hold a meeting to identify how to encourage infrastructure development. The meeting will address issues such as need to improve regulations, include incentives to encourage development, and identify potential funding sources. The information will be used to develop an action plan.

Waste Cleanup Grant: \$50,000 awarded to the Tohono O'odham Nation to do an open dump assessment. There is a lot of human traffic, resulting in tons of garbage. This is for an assessment and a pilot project, to identify and develop solutions.

Tire clean up: The program goal is to clean up the three largest piles in the border area. There are some funds available for demonstration projects to identify potential alternatives and resources. There are a lot of reuse ideas to solve the tire problem, but the infrastructure is costly. The solutions will depend on local resources. Need local point people.

Abandoned contaminated sites: To meet objective four- clean up and revitalization of abandoned sites the task force is developing a binational policy or framework to encourage redevelopment, and address liability issues that may be impeding redevelopment of these sites.

Two suggestions for the regional work group:

- One for the Mexican side: look at how to get agencies that have programmatic jurisdiction working with those that have enforcement roles.
- On the US side: look at how to get the ADEQ waste program to focus on the border.

11:05 - 11:20

**Break**

11:20- 12:45

**Regional Environmental Activities (continued):**

- **Children's Environmental Health (Ecól. Edith Frias)**

This task force was only recently created. Objectives have been defined to address borderwide environmental health challenges: to reduce risks to border families especially children, of exposure to contaminants in the air, soil, and water. These issues overlap with all areas that are of concern.

There are several goals in Border 2012 related to environmental health:

- Air: By 2006 evaluate the respiratory factors that can be monitored. Evaluate gastro intestinal risks and effects.



- Pesticides: By 2006 finish and evaluate pilot program. By 2007 reduce exposure to pesticides by training workers. By 2006 establish a distance learning graduate program in environmental health. By 2004 increase cooperation in the areas of pesticides and water quality by training 100 workers.

We are a new task force, we are just beginning to meet to organize and identify projects and activities in the last five months. We hope to gain from your experience and get up to speed quickly.

In September and December we held two meetings to identify issues and priorities and possible strategies.

We are currently contacting civil groups, research centers, local, state, and federal agencies who work in child health, in order to include all sectors. We want to integrate/coordinate all these efforts.

Planned projects under this task force include:

- Create a binational environmental health education program related to goal 4b.
- Provide training regarding pesticides in Phoenix, AZ.
- Collect pesticides in border communities.
- Train local health promoters in areas related to goal 4b.
- Initiate a campaign aimed at children regarding the primary means of exposure.
- Increase public awareness of environmental health issues.

Estimated cost for first two years: \$50,000.

Summary of Comment from Ms. Elaine Koerner, Good Neighbor Environmental Board (GNEB):

GNEB applauds your efforts. We are especially interested in this topic. We will present a report to the president on children's environmental health along the border.

- **Water (Ms. Eugenia McNaughton, EPA)**

Water is one of the biggest areas in which the U.S. and Mexico are working together, through the border environmental infrastructure fund. Fifty-one projects have been funded in the last 10 years, which is a great base of support for the water task force in AZ.

Quality and quantity cannot be separated in reality, but they are in jurisdiction. Fortunately we are working together on these issues in AZ. And the CNA in Mexico is also working with us on this.

We have two committees that focus on water in the AZ/Sonora area. In Sonora/AZ, four areas with different kinds of water issues have been

identified: Ambos Nogales, Agua Prieta/Douglas, the Tohono O'odham Nation, the upper San Pedro.

This is a big undertaking for one task force. There are people already working on these issues in these areas, and we intend to work with them to understand their priorities and support their efforts.

There is a committee within the task force focusing on the Colorado River as well, with all four states and tribes as participants.

Task force activities for Eastern Son/AZ over the past six months:

- Brainstorming: lists of issues prepared for meetings
- Two organizational meetings
- Presentations at Upper San Pedro Partnership meetings
- Public meetings scheduled for spring

Task force activities for the Lower Colorado River area:

- One brainstorming meeting
- This week the existing Yuma water group will be approached to participate.

One of the most important objectives for task forces is to establish continuous binational communication to provide each other with information to avoid duplication and help each other solve problems. We would like to see connections to Mexican "watershed councils" to work seamlessly with those efforts.

We want to encourage locally generated projects.

Most project proposals deal with water; water is the biggest concern along the border.

Future actions for Lower Colorado River focus::

- Need to identify co-chairs
- Gather information
- Convene local binational meetings
- Develop action items
- Leverage support.

Question from Mr. Nick Montille, Senator McCain's office: The senator is concerned with preservation of the Rio San Pedro. Does the task force have plans to discuss water use affecting the surface flow of the San Pedro?

Response Summary: We have a strong interest in quantity and quality issues, biodiversity issues. We see the San Pedro as a model. We need to be realistic and optimistic. The San Pedro has been acknowledged as one of last great places. We are interested in working with the upper San Pedro Partnership to develop a long term view to save it.

Summary of Comment from Ing. Gildardo Acosta, Enlace Ecológico: The area of concern is not just the San Pedro basin. Cananea includes the Sonora River and it is within the border area and has been affected by measures implemented to protect the San Pedro, so this should be taken into account.

Question: It appears things are well organized in the east, but not in Ambos Nogales.

Response Summary: We know what the issues are and who the groups are, but there is no public meeting until March in Ambos Nogales. Information will be out to encourage participation.

Question: In Santa Cruz County you mentioned quality and quantity of water, is that mainly drinking water or all water? Is there overlap with waste water and the problem of the Nogales wash?

Response Summary: We worked with ADEQ to get sampling information. It's useful to underscore the need to work across areas. We need to focus our work, but there are issues that will lead us to work with waste and environmental health, for example.

Comment from Ms. Ann Browning-Aiken, Udall Center: With regard to the San Pedro, the Udall Center web site has information about alliances between communities in Mexico and the U.S. that are working on this.

Question from Mr. Jerry Gonzalez, SW Strategy and farmer/rancher in Douglas area: As a farmer and rancher for the last 20 years, we have done a lot to improve water efficiency. This is probably one of the most water efficient agricultural valleys. What is the plan to maintain a healthy agricultural community and how many ranchers are involved in the work group?

Response Summary: We welcome all sectors that have an interest in water. We would like to help facilitate participation.

**• Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Response (Lic. Wilebaldo Alatraste, Dr. Diane Carper, Ms. Lauren Volpini)**

The presentation started with a summary of the Task Force goals as stated in the Border 2012 Framework Document:

**GOAL #5 Reduce Exposure to Chemicals as a Result of Accidental Chemical Releases and/or Deliberate Acts of Terrorism**

- Objective 1: By 2004, have a clearly established chemical emergency advisory/notification mechanism between Mexico and the United States.

- Objective 2: By 2008, have all 14 sister cities joint contingency plans in place and operating (including exercises), with the establishment of binational committees for chemical emergency prevention (or similar border forums).
- Objective 3: By 2012, 50% of sister city joint contingency plans would have been supplemented with preparedness and prevention related efforts, such as risk and consequence analysis, risk reduction and counter-terrorism.

**The Task Force Meetings held to date are:**

- April 24, 2003                      Rio Rico, AZ
- July 16, 2003                      Nogales, Son
- September 24, 2003              San Luis, AZ
- February 9, 2004                Nogales, Son

**Task Force Participation**

A list of participating agencies from both countries was presented. There are a total of 25 federal, state and local government agencies represented on the Task Force.

**Associated Binational Efforts**

In addition to the Task Force activities, there are other organizations addressing border health and emergency response issues:

- AZ/Sonora Commission Ad Hoc Emergency Management Committee
- Binational Border Health Preparedness Committee
- Bio-terrorism Preparedness Team

**CEPR Task Force Goals and Objectives**

The CEPR Task Force has established two working subcommittees to address identified goals and objectives.:

**Policy Subcommittee**

Co-Chairs

Captain Frank Lara, Douglas, AZ Fire Dept

Comandante Miguel Ángel Campillo, Director, Protección Civil, Agua Prieta

- Energize the Binational Emergency Planning Committees, and update Sister City Plans to include public health and weapons of mass destruction components, as well as new Customs procedures
- Incorporate binational emergency medical and public health preparedness and response needs
- Ensure coordination with other plans and governmental entities
- Ensure full border coverage for preparedness and response (in addition to sister cities).
- Produce bilingual training and informational materials for both government and the public

## **Operational Subcommittee**

### **Co-Chairs**

Arturo Miranda, Chief, Fire Department, San Luis, AZ

Marco Antonio Ochoa, Director, Protección Civil, San Luís Río Colorado, Sonora

- Address first responder indemnification issues for cross-border emergency response (personnel and equipment)
- Address binational communications needs, such as the availability of equipment and common radio frequencies
- Appropriately include industry, non-governmental organizations, the public and the media
- Ensure that vulnerable populations (i.e. the physically challenged, children) are protected
- Ensure effective cross border notifications of risks and releases

## **Task Force Administration and Public Outreach**

- Quarterly meetings publicized
- Public and Media session at the end of each meeting. Co-Chair summarizes meeting discussions and action items; question and answers.
- Quarterly Newsletter, “The Border Brigade” has been developed

The USEPA developed an information booth with photos and printed materials of Task Force activities and partners. Attendees were encouraged to visit the booth which was set up in the Conference room.

## **Upcoming Task Force Schedule :**

March 1 Policy and Operations Subcommittees to report to Co-Chairs on the scope of their activities: What, How, Who

- April 10 Subcommittees to submit progress report to Co-Chairs
- May 10 Subcommittee reports published in Newsletter
- May 14 Task Force Meeting in Douglas, Arizona

## **CEPR Task Force Funding Needs**

- Emergency response to spills and releases requires:
  - adequate emergency response equipment and training
- Binational communication requires:
  - Dedicated radio frequencies and communication equipment
- Identification of risks requires:
  - Chemical Inventories of fixed facilities and other potential sources of environmental releases such as tire piles
  - Commodity Flow Studies of hazmats in transport

## **AZ/Son and CA/Baja, CA Borderwide Projects**

### **Emergency Response Equipment and Assistance Program**

Objective: identify donors of used and surplus emergency response equipment, technical assistance and other resources and connect with

border emergency response organizations that can use them. A web site has been established to facilitate equipment exchanges: e-reap.org.

### **Border Disaster Terminology Field Guide**

A Border Disaster Terminology Field Guide will be developed which is “incident-based” and will contain vocabulary and phrases useful to general and specific disaster operations.

### **Waste Tire Pile Fire Prevention and Planning Project**

A binational team has been created to study tire piles sites in the Arizona/Sonora and California/Baja California border area to:

1. Identify Tire Pile Locations;
2. Characterize Piles;
3. Make Recommendations regarding fire prevention and response planning; and
4. Share Findings

### **2004 HazMat Training and Exercises**

The following hazmat training events have been scheduled for 2004:

- Cochise County/Naco
- San Diego County/Tijuana
- Continuing Challenge HazMat Training Conference, Sacramento, CA September 2004
- Currently seeking funding for a HazMat Response Institute in Mexico

12:45 – 1:00

### **Question and Answer Period**

Question from Mr. Neil Markowitz, Environmental Education Exchange:  
There is a great need to address all these problems at the level of education and a great opportunity to be proactive in the area of education. All task forces have serious education needs as part of completing their mandates. There are NGOs with a lot of experience in developing environmental educational materials and programs. How will you coordinate communication between NGOs and task forces?

Summary of Response from Ms. Laura Yoshii, EPA: We’d like to commit to a couple of scoping meetings to identify what partnerships we could help build. We have heard loud and clear about the importance of environmental education. That’s our commitment.

Comment from Mr. Juan Mendoza, City of Nogales, Sonora: We are very interested in environmental education. We are developing a program for K-12 on environmental topics, but we believe it should be broader. We would like to participate with the task force. \$50,000 seems very little for this project. We could do much more working together. We would like to be included.

Response from Ms. Yoshii: We will notify you of the first meeting.

Comment from Mr. Miguel Ángel González, Municipality of Naco, Sonora: Regarding emergency response, the need for equipment is serious. Knowing what the risks are is not sufficient if we don't have the equipment to respond. We have no operational resources. We depend on municipal governments. Municipal authorities should be included in the meetings so they will maintain the level of funding necessary. It is also important to determine who has jurisdiction and what the chain of command is for each type of incident. Waste and enforcement discussions should also include local government officials since solid waste is their jurisdiction.

12:45 - 1:00

### **Closing**

The audience was thanked for their participation and the session closed by co-chairs. Participants were invited to attend the air group task force meeting March 24, and the waste and enforcement meeting in April, and reminded that the next Regional Work Group Meeting will be held in the fall in Sonora, and the next National Coordinators Meeting will be in Arizona.